



Michigan | Campus Compact

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## **Summit to Address Service-Learning and Volunteerism Strategies for Engaging Marginalized Youth**

**January 16, 2009 - LANSING, MI** – For every 100 youth who enter ninth grade, only 69 are likely to graduate high school four years later, according to the most recent Michigan Census. And of those 69 youth, about 40 are likely to enroll in college within a year. The 2009 Solutions Summit will bring together educators and practitioners who work with marginalized youth, including those from low-income and disenfranchised communities, youth in foster care and youth with disabilities, to explore strategies for youth engagement and increased student success.

The Summit, taking place February 11, 2009 from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Grand Rapids, will be facilitated by Dr. Nicole Webster, an Associate Professor of Service Learning and Civic Engagement at Pennsylvania State University. Participants will discuss the basic principles of service-learning, how service-learning can transform youth and the community, and will receive tools to implement service-learning in their own youth programming.

“A recent report from Kids Count in Michigan has found a 29 percent increase in the percent of children living in poverty, with 18 percent of children in Michigan living in poverty,” said Amy Smitter, Executive Director of Michigan Campus Compact. “Dr. Webster will introduce educators and practitioners to service-learning and volunteerism as strategies to engage and transform our marginalized youth.”

Dr. Nicole Webster has published articles on service-learning and outreach in outlets such as *Advances in Service-Learning Research*, *Journal of Gifted Child Quarterly*, and *National Society for Experiential Education Quarterly* and developed workshop presentations for domestic and internal audiences. Her co-edited book, *Problematizing Service-Learning: Critical Reflections for Development and Action*, will be published by Information Age Publishing in 2009.

More information about the Solutions Summit can be found at [www.micampuscompact.org/solutions.asp](http://www.micampuscompact.org/solutions.asp).

Michigan Campus Compact is a coalition of college and university presidents who are committed to fulfilling the public purposes of higher education. Campus Compact member presidents are joined together in their commitment to the development of personal and social responsibility as integral to the educational mission of their campuses.

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